

U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Virginia*

*Paul J. McNulty
United States Attorney*

*Fountain Plaza Three, Suite 300
721 Lakefront Commons
Newport News, VA 23606*

*757/591-4000
FAX 757/591-0866*

NEWS RELEASE

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For Further Information Contact:
Deanna Warren 757-441-6331

Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Joseph T. King, age 22, of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, pleaded guilty today in United States District Court in Norfolk, to maiming and driving under the influence of alcohol. King faces a maximum sentence of 5 years in prison and a fine of \$2,500.00 on the maiming charge and a maximum of 1 year in prison and a fine of \$2,500.00 on the driving under the influence charge when sentenced on June 7, 2004, by The Honorable Jerome B. Friedman, United States District Judge.

The accident occurred on November 13, 2003, at approximately 2:44 a.m. on Fort Story Army Base, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Investigation of the accident revealed that King, while driving approximately 90 mph in a 30 mph zone, failed to maintain control of his vehicle. King's vehicle left the roadway, struck a tree, went down an embankment, rolled several times, ejecting the passenger from the vehicle. The passenger sustained three fractured vertebrae, a fractured pelvis, and lacerations to his head, and is currently facing a medical discharge from the Army due to the injuries.

Further investigation revealed that King was operating the vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .14%.

The case was investigated by the Military Police Department, Fort Story, Virginia. Special Assistant United States Attorney Shannon Dillon is the prosecutor for the United States.

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